

Appl. No. : 10/615,741
Filed : July 8, 2003

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that Claims 1-9, 12-13, 26-34, and 37-38 are allowed. The Examiner also indicated that Claims 23 and 24 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections made under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, set forth in the Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicant hereby amends the base Claim 14 to include the further limitations of Claims 22 and 23 which are cancelled by this paper. The Applicant also amends Claim 24 to provide proper dependency from the amended base Claim 14 rather than from the now cancelled Claim 23.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 14-25 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. More particularly, the Examiner noted that the flange of the Applicant's invention extends generally horizontally only at the top and bottom portions of the flange therefore rendering the claims vague. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for noting this discrepancy and hereby amends Claim 14 to more clearly recited ". . . a moisture flange extending generally in horizontal planes outwardly from the periphery of the at least one side opening at top and bottom portions of the flange and generally in vertical planes at side portions of the flange. . ." (Claim 14 as currently amended).

The Applicant thus believes that Claim 14 as well as Claims 15-21 and 25 depending therefrom now comply with the requirements of 35 USC §112, second paragraph, and do particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. The Applicant thus believes that Claims 14-21 and 25 as currently amended are now allowable as indicated by the Examiner in the Office Action.

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SUMMARY

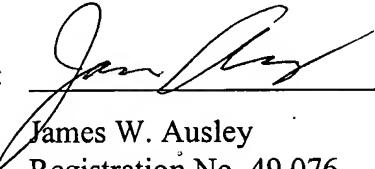
The Examiner has indicated that Claims 1-9, 12-13, 26-34, and 37-38 are allowed. As previously discussed, the Applicant believes that Claims 14-21 and 25 as currently amended are also allowable under the requirements of 35 USC §112, second paragraph, and 35 USC §103(a) over the art of record. The Applicant thus believes that the subject application is in a condition ready for allowance and respectfully requests prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability. The Applicant believes that this paper is fully responsive to the rejections and objections made by the Examiner in the Office Action, however should there remain any further impediments to the allowance of this application that might be resolved by a telephone conference and/or Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the indicated telephone number.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 9/13/04

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